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REPLY TO ADDRESS INDICATED:

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*file legislative correspondence*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
SALEM, OREGON  
97310

January 28, 1994

Jerralynn Ness  
451 S 1st Avenue, Ste 700  
Hillsboro, OR 97123

Dear Jerralynn:

Thank you for taking the time to answer and return the Business Plan Questionnaire I sent out in late December. I value your input, not only as a community leader, but as a citizen of Oregon.

For your information, I have enclosed the compiled answers of all who returned the questionnaires. Many of you had the same thoughts in regard to how the Legislative Body was perceived and should be perceived. I have forwarded the compiled answers to Speaker Larry Campbell and the Legislative Business Plan Steering Committee, who is looking at how it conducts the business of the Legislature.

Again, I thank you. It is your time and effort that makes the difference.

Sincerely,

Representative John Meek

Enclosure

# Business Plan Questionnaire

## Compiled Answers

### A. External Environment

**QUESTION: What Oregon trends will affect the way the Legislative Assembly conducts business in the next 5 - 10 years (e.g., economic, social, political, other?)**

1.
  - a. Tax problem & education funding issue
  - b. Voters voting in new candidates, good candidates harder to find.
  - c. Economic & environmental concerns
  - d. Water supply
  - e. Population growth and the aging of population (more conservative)
  - f. How to attract businesses to Oregon
  - g. Unwillingness to pay for services - welfare
  - h. Avoiding tough issues (ie. PERS, cutting Gov't operating costs)

**QUESTION: What changes are and will be taking place with the "customers" of the Legislative Assembly and those who supply information to it (those affected by or involved with the legislative process-including citizens, agencies, interest groups, and others)?**

2.
  - a. Don't treat the citizens as customers, should provide leadership. Citizens are not customers. A customer can choose where to do business, citizens can't choose a whole different legislative body, but one legislator.
  - b. A rebellion of support from the electorate unless the PAC's and lobbyists are stripped of their power over legislators.
  - c. Losing faith in government, a need for efficiency
  - d. Top students will go to college elsewhere
  - e. Constrain METRO

**QUESTION: How should any of the above trends and changes affect the Legislative Assembly?**

3. It's processes:
    - a. Making elected officials do something
    - b. A revision of it's image and purpose
    - c. More legislators that will stand up for what they believe in.
    - d. Accountability
    - e. Must be more responsive
- It's role: a: Must be a leader

**QUESTION:** What does the Legislative Assembly need to do to better perform its role and respond to its "customers".

4.
  - a. Do things for Oregon without getting caught up in Democrats and Republican issues
  - b. Talk to people - Not PAC's & lobby groups
  - c. Full time legislature
  - d. Define real objectives and priorities and work toward them
  - e. Resist temptation to make gov't bigger - less gov't
  - f. Listen and respond to "customers"

## **B. Legislative Business Processes**

**QUESTION:** What should be the highest priority objectives of the legislature?

1.
  - a. Removal of some of the rules & regulations
  - b. Budget - balance
  - c. Replace lost revenue to schools - school funding
  - d. Establish efficiencies in gov't
  - e. Eliminate gov't agencies & services that don't make priority list
  - f. Curb immigration - pay for their own way
  - g. Improve credibility
  - h. Total tax reform
  - i. Health care for all

**QUESTION:** What policies, processes and procedures do you believe need to be improved in the legislature?

2.
  - a. OSHA, EPA, & DEQ have too much authority.
  - b. Control of the agencies.
  - c. Too many bills - limit amount of bills that a legislator can introduce
  - d. Narrow down focus and make goals-mission statement
  - e. Less politics

**QUESTION:** What areas in your business/expertise does Government paperwork seem to be duplicated and/or routed excessively?

4.
  - a. DEQ, OSHA, METRO, city, county Land use, state too many to accomplish so little

**QUESTION: Is there any information produced by the Legislative Assembly that is difficult to understand, is inaccurate, or could be more useful in some way? Please specify how this information could be improved.**

5.
  - a. If those affected by the rules knew about them before enactment instead of finding out when it is a done deal, many state agencies adopting policies the legislature has never heard of
  - b. Make simple to understand
  - c. The less information produced the better
  - d. Budget-difficult to track, need a running budget available to the public during session

C. Strategies for improvement

**QUESTION: What other specific recommendations can you make to improve how the legislature conducts its business (e.g., related to organization, process, technology.)?**

1.
  - a. Anything that costs business money should be required to consider economic impact as a factor before it is implemented
  - b. The legislature needs to seriously explore what are the qualities of excellence in legislature leadership and try to incorporate those in to their behavior, organization and procedures.